

























## BY TELEGRAPH

NORTH CHINA  
DEBACLE.JAPANESE TROOPS FOR  
TIENTSIN.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)  
London, March 4.  
Reuter's Peking correspondent reports that five thousand Japanese soldiers have been ordered to proceed from Port Arthur to Tientsin.

## ALL QUIET.

(Wah Tse Yat Po Service.)  
Peking, March 4.  
Fire again raged in the city yesterday, but all is again quiet to-day.

## RAILWAY INTERRUPTED.

The Peking-Tientsin Railway service only runs as far as Yang Chuan.

## FIGHTING.

On the night of the 3rd inst the 2nd Division of the army fought the 20th Division until daybreak.  
There were many casualties on both sides.

## TIENTSIN TROUBLES.

The mutineers from the 3rd Division fled to Tientsin and with the late Viceroy's troops indulged in looting and incendiarism.  
Japanese troops have entered the Chinese quarter at Tientsin.

## A SUGGESTION.

SHANGHAI, March 5.  
The representatives from Nanking in Peking have wired to the Nanking Government that as Yuan Shih-kai cannot now go south, it is better that he should take up the post of President at Peking and at once establish the seat of Government there.  
Sun Yat-sen has declared his intention of taking a strong military force to the North in order to assist Yuan Shih-kai, and to request that Gen. Li Yuan-bang be named President.

## MISSIONARY CHURCH BURNED.

A missionary church at Peking has been destroyed by fire, but all the missionaries are safe.

## PALMYRA ISLAND.

BRITISH PROTECTORATE  
ABANDONED.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)  
London, March 5.  
During question time in the House of Commons Mr. Asquith stated that the British Protectorate over Palmyra Island, in the Pacific, which America has annexed, has been abandoned, a more suitable island being found for cable purposes.

## THE TRIPOLITAN WAR.

ITALIANS FIERCELY  
ATTACKED.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)  
London, March 5.  
A message from Reuter's correspondent at Rome states that the Turks and Arabs yesterday fiercely attacked the Italians engaged in erecting works at Derna.  
They made repeated bayonet charges, and on Italian reinforcements arriving a hot engagement ensued till night, when the Turks retired, with losses the extent of which is unknown.  
The Italian casualties were 150.

## HOME DEFENCE.

EFFECT OF S. AFRICAN  
DEFENCE BILL.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)  
London, March 4.  
The Times, in a special article on the Army estimates, points out that while the Navy is concentrating in Home waters, the overseas garrisons require strengthening, but there is a gleam of hope that in South Africa, if the Defence Bill passes, there will soon be no need for a British garrison.

## A CITY SENSATION.

ATTEMPT ON MR. LEOPOLD  
DE ROYER-SOLLER.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)  
London, March 4.  
Four shots were fired at Mr. Leopold de Royer-Soller as he was entering a hotel in St. Petersburg.  
The shots did not hurt him, but he was wounded on the arm and forehead. A doctor was called and the other shots were fired.

## BY TELEGRAPH

## THE COAL STRIKE

## APPEAL BY THE "TIMES."

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)  
London, March 4.

The Times, in an article on the coal strike, urges everyone to put aside political differences, and to strengthen the hands of the Government.

## DIRE EFFECTS.

Though the coal crisis has reached a deadlock, the papers contain columns of details regarding the rise in prices and the stoppage of industries.

Orders are going to Germany, the United States and elsewhere.  
Drastic train service reductions are coming in force to-day.

## HOW LONG?

Prognostications as to the duration of the strike range from a few days to six weeks. In South Wales, however, where both sides are determined to fight to a finish, preparations are being made for a prolonged struggle, but opinion among the mining leaders tends to put the duration at a fortnight.

## FOOLHARDINESS.

The grave element of the week has been that a section of the miners in the Tyne district, contrary to the undertaking of the Miners' Federation, has decided not to allow the men to descend into the pits to prevent flooding. This means rendering the pits for ever useless, and thus the men will be deprived of all prospect of work.

PREMIER'S IMPORTANT  
SPEECH.

LONDON, March 4.

The House of Commons was crowded when the Premier (Mr. Asquith) made an important statement on the coal crisis. He reviewed the whole course of the negotiations, mentioning that the Government had been closely watching from the beginning the various stages of the controversy, and paid a tribute to both sides for the ability and skill and the calm and cool temper with which they had presented their case.

Referring to his speech at the Foreign Office, the Premier stated that it was an impromptu speech and the report which had been published was correct and exhaustive. He emphasised the point that he said nothing in that speech which either in substance or effect went in advance of the published report. He was not in the habit of engaging in flirtations with Socialism and then trying to conceal from the public the manner in which he had been employing his time. In his arguments to the miners' representatives he carefully abstained from expressing any opinion as to which side was right or wrong, but the point he put to the men was the point he was now putting to the whole country. He was not adopting a contentious attitude; his whole object was peace. (Cheers.)

He affirmed that the Government's acceptance of the principle of a reasonable minimum wage was subject to two conditions—firstly, that the wage must vary district by district; secondly, that it must be accompanied by safeguards protecting the employers against strikes and providing against a diminution of output which in the long run would be disastrous to all concerned and to the industry itself.

He pointed out that the men recognised both conditions, but they declared that the schedule of the National Miners' Federation contained the lowest possible rates and were beyond the range of negotiation or revision.

Mr. Asquith then detailed the objections of the owners to the schedule, and asked was it possible for any Government, which it had recognised the principle of a reasonable minimum wage, to ask Parliament to coerce one of the two parties who had presented such formidable criticisms and objections to the minimum wage schedule as it stood to accept not merely the principle, but the terms, without enquiry or negotiation? He put that argument to the men, and he thought it had never been so good fortune to present a good case.

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## PANATICO SUFFRAGETTE

## ATTEMPTED INCENDIARISM.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)  
London, March 4.

A suffragette last night ignited a pile of shavings stored with petroleum in the doorway of the General Post Office. The woman was arrested. The damage was of the slightest.

The Daily Mail says that a number of the suffragettes in Holloway goal riot-ed in the yard, demanding to see Mrs. Pankhurst, and singing the Marseillaise. Where removed to the cells, they smashed all the windows.

## GERMAN DOCTOR KILLED.

The doctor who was killed at Tientsin was a German named Scheyer. He was assisting his compatriots to escape when he was shot by a policeman.

## TR. UBL. IN MANCHURIA.

A message from Reuter's St. Petersburg correspondent states that fighting between the Regulars and the Revolutionary force, and was concentrated in the streets, was resumed to-day.

There is a panic in the city, and it is feared that the Revolutionaries will seize the opportunity to create disorder.

## BRITISH TROOPS LEFT TIVE.

A message from Tientsin states that the activity of the Somerset Battalion at Fengtai and the opportune arrival of the Inniskilling, overpowered 1,500 Chinese troops who had threatened to block the Peking Railway.

## MORE WINDOW SMASHING.

The Suffragettes to-day indulged in further window-smashing at the premises of the principal drapery firms in the West End.  
A number of arrests were made.

## A SENSIBLE SUGGESTION.

In the House of Commons a member asked, in view of the window-smashing, if the Government would speedily pass a Bill making Suffragette organisations responsible for the damage.

Mr. Asquith, in reply, said the disgraceful proceedings—(cheers)—ought to be brought home not merely to those who were responsible for their actions. He entirely agreed with the member, but desired to consult the Attorney General before making a further statement.

## ANOTHER OUTBURST.

London, March 5.  
The Suffragettes to-day raided Knightsbridge and Kensington on their window-smashing campaign, doing damage at Harrod's, John Barker's and other great establishments.  
They also smashed eight windows in the House of Lords, besides windows in the houses of members of the Cabinet.  
The police, mounted and foot, were everywhere, owing to the widespread nature of the attack.  
The suffragette incendiary has been committed to trial.

## YET ANOTHER DEMONSTRATION.

There was another window-smashing in the Chelsea district last night. Shopkeepers are now barricading their windows.  
There were no violent demonstrations in Parliament to-day.  
52 to 50 have been made.

CANADIAN POLITICIAN'S  
DEATH.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)  
London, March 5.

A telegram from Reuter's Toronto correspondent reports the death of the Hon. Edmund Blake, K.C., P.C., M.P., at the age of 70.

Mr. Blake, the former and now retired member of the House of Commons, was a member of the Ontario Legislative Council, and had been a member of the House of Commons for many years.

## RIGHT HON. MR. BAKER.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)  
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The death of a member of the Right Hon. Mr. Baker, formerly Secretary of the Ministry of Education, was reported to-day.

## MERRY WEATHERS.

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